# Rabies Postexposure Treatment Recommendations

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# **Bite Treatment**

- Clean wound
- Use a virucidal agent
- Evaluate the need for antibiotics

# When to use Prophylaxis

- When animal tests positive for rabies
- When animal is a high risk animal that is NOT available for testing or tests results are inconclusive
  - Bats
  - Skunks
  - Raccoons
  - Coyotes
  - Foxes

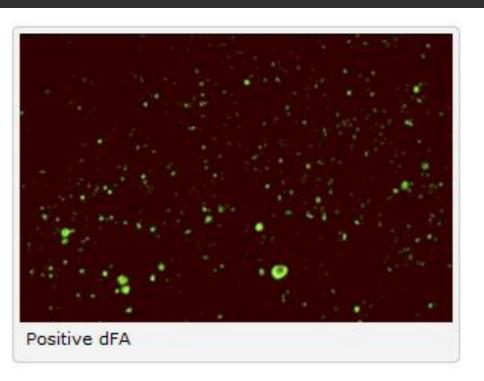
# When NOT to use Prophylaxis

- When the biter is NOT a mammal
- Low risk species with normal behavior
- Domestic animal that is known to be alive and can be quarantined
- When animal is available for testing

# **ISDH Testing for Rabies**

- Results within 24 hours of delivery
- Same day testing
  - Critical Samples that arrive before 11am
- Deliver 8:30-4:30 Monday-Friday
- Weekend testing can be arranged
  - Urgent situations with approval
  - Bats or symptomatic animals

# **ISDH Specimen Testing**





# **Prophylaxis Window**

- Delay the decision for PEP if animal is quarantined or available for testing
- Incubation period for development of rabies symptoms is normally 3 to 12 weeks after exposure
- Yes you CAN wait to treat

#### **Rabies Treatment Algorithm** This chart applies only to Indiana and to the current rabies situation (2/27/08) Was the skin broken and/or were mucous No exposure—no further membranes (eye, mouth) exposed to saliva No action required or nerve or brain tissue Animal bites and the administration of rabies Yes postexposure prophylaxis (PEP) are Was the animal a mammal? reportable events (birds, reptiles, and amphibians No do not get or transmit rabies) The animal is a wild animal The animal is a domestic animal Yes (higher risk) (lower risk) The animal is a The animal is a The animal is The animal is a The animal is a cage-raised/ The animal is a dog, cat, or not a species squirrel, rabbit, species at high confined cow, horse, or ferret field mouse, or at high risk for risk for rabies animal such as other livestock rabies other rodent (bat, skunk, a hamster, raccoon, fox, mouse, or gerbil If the animal Consult with If the animal is escaped or is the local health Generally, these species available for Generally, if the not available. department or do not contract or observation or animal is the decision to ISDH. transmit rabies. Unless laboratory Generally, if the available for use PEP These animals Generally, no there is an unusual exam, no laboratory exam, animal is should be generally do other action is circumstance, PEP is not required.

available for laboratory exam, PEP may be delayed until lab results are available. If not available. consider PEP. Consult with local health department or

ISDH if desired.

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required. Consult with local health department or ISDH if desired.

> **ISDH Rabies Consultant** M-F 317.233.7125 Evenings, weekends, and holidays 317.233.1325

based on the circumstances of incident and the presence of rabies in the area. Local health department or ISDH is available to

assist in the

decision.

further action is needed until laboratory or observation results are available.

not have an opportunity to be exposed to rabies virus and rarely have rabies. Except in unusual

required.

circumstances.

no further

action is

## Rabies Prevention Guidance

- Human Rabies Prevention-United States,
   2008 Recommendations of Practices (ACIP)
  - MMWR: May 23, 2008 / 57 (RR-03);1 28
  - MMWR Update: March 19, 2010 / 59(02);1-9
- Animal: Compendium of Animal Rabies
   Prevention and Control, 2011 (NASPHV)
  - http://www.nasphv.org/Documents/RabiesCompendium.pdf

# Incidence in Animals (IN)

- Bat variant is endemic
  - 39 positive bats 2009
  - 24 positive bats 2010
- Skunk variant 2004
- Other variants are not currently present, but may be introduced

## Treatment...

- Effective if given after exposure
- Anytime before symptoms develop
- Can be shipped to HCP overnight (manufacturer)
- Expensive!



# When patient can't pay.....



#### APPLICATION AND CLAIM FOR BIOLOGICALS

State Form 43918 (R / 11-97) Approved by State Board of Accounts 1990 STATE OF INDIANA
STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

#### INSTRUCTIONS:

- Indiana code 16-41-19-2 requires counties, cities, and towns to supply certain biological products to persons who are financially unable to pay for them, upon application by a licensed physician.
- The biological products covered by this law are diphtheria antitoxin, tetanus antitoxin, and rabies vaccines. Any dealer may supply the biologicals. Physician / treatment fees are not reimbursable under IC 16-41-19.
- BLANK FORMS are supplied by the State Department of Health to local health officers who, in turn, supply physicians on request.
- Prepare a separate form for each patient.
- COMPLETED FORMS are submitted by the physician to the local health officer. Local health officers will make a copy or extract information (IC 16-41-19-8), sign the form, and immediately forward the original to the agency directed by ISDH guidelines.

# Rabies Immunoglobulin (RIG)

- Given once (day 0)
- Immediate, passive antibodies
- Weight based (20 IU/kg)
  - several injections at same time
- Given at the site of bite or in a large muscle group

## Vaccine

- Small dose
- Given in muscle (arm)
- 4 doses over 2 weeks
  - Day 0 (with RIG)
  - Day 3
  - Day 7
  - Day 14



Day 0 is the date when the 1<sup>st</sup> vaccine was given NOT when the exposure occurred

# What if RIG wasn't given?

- Should be given with the 1<sup>st</sup> dose of vaccine (different location on body)
- May be given up to 7 days after the 1<sup>st</sup> dose of vaccine
- If no vaccine has been given but it's been days to weeks after a high risk exposure give RIG immediately!

# What if a dose of vaccine is missed?

- Give that dose as soon as possible
- Give the next dose the appropriate # of days later

- Dose 1 = Day 0
- Dose 2 = 3 days later
- Dose 3 = 4 days later
- Dose 4 = 7 days later

# **Unusual Situations**

- Foreign exposure (higher risk)
- Treatment started somewhere else
- Using recommendations not consistent with CDC
- Part of treatment given incorrectly

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# **Questions?**